

REMARKS

Claims 21-39 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-20 have been canceled and new claims 21-39 have been added. Each of the pending claims is believed to defined an invention that is novel and unobvious over the cited references. Favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Embodiments of the present invention relate to call connection management equipment. In an exemplary embodiment, the call connection management equipment includes a history storage that stores a call connection history. The call connection history is stored for each combination of the calling and called terminal IDs read from a call connection request. When the call connection equipment receives a call connection request, it is determined whether the history storage stores a call connection history corresponding to the combination of the calling and called terminal IDs stored in the call connection request. For example, in one embodiment of the invention, the call connection histories are stored in a history management table 331 provided in the call connection history recording part 330, please see Figure 3. The call connection history recording part 330 determines whether the history management table 331 stores a call connection history corresponding to the combination of the calling and called terminal IDs stored in the call connection request, please see page 15, lines 8-14 of the present specification.

In the case where the call connection history is stored in the history storage, the history storage 330 sends the history to a comparator, that is, judgment part 340 in Figure 3. The comparator 340 determines whether this call connection history satisfies a predetermined condition. If this history satisfies the predetermined condition, the connection register part 350, sends the call connection information to the call connection establishment part 360, please see page 15, lines 15-22 of the present specification. The call connection information is generated and stored in the connection register 350 by a connection setter, that is, is connection setting part 320 when a previous call establishment from the same calling terminal to the same called terminal is performed, please see page 12, lines 1-3. The connection establisher 360 then establishes the call connection using this call connection information, page 16, line 9-10.

In the case where the call connection history for the call connection request is not stored in the history storage 330, the connection establisher 360 does not use the call connection information stored in the connection register 350 to establish a connection, but instead uses a newly generated call connection information created by the connection setter 320, see page 15, line 23 – page 16, line 2. Similarly, in the case where the call connection history is stored in the history storage 330, but is not judged to satisfy the predetermined condition, the connection establisher 360 uses the newly generated call connection information to establish the call connection, but does not use the call connection information stored in the connection register part 350, please see page 16, lines 3-8 of the present specification.

As described above, when the calling and called terminal IDs read from a call connection request match corresponding call connection histories stored in the history storage and the call connection history satisfy a predetermined connection, the call connection management equipment uses the call connection information stored in the history storage for establishing a call connection. In other words, a call connection can be established using call connection information previously generated when the previous call connection information is stored in the history and satisfies a predetermined condition. This allows for a decrease in the time required for establishing call connections, see, for example, page 17, lines 8-14 of the specification for this and other advantages of the present invention. Newly generated call connection information is used to establish the call connection when the predetermined condition is not satisfied.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number to Hendrey et al. in view U.S. Patent Number 6,621,894 to Fujino et al. Claims 1-20 have been replaced by new claims 21-39. Hendrey et al. and Fujino et al. do not render the claimed invention obvious as they do not teach or suggest, among other things switching between previously generated call connection information and newly generated call connection information to establish a call connection based on the call connection history.

As noted in section 2 of the Office Action, Hendrey et al. do not teach establishing a call connection based on newly generated call connection information when the call connection history

is not stored or does not satisfy the predetermined condition. Fujino et al. do not supplement Hendrey et al. to teach or suggest this claim feature.

In Fujino et al., when a telephone terminal receives an incoming call, the callers information that is given by the caller ID notification service and the corresponding reception time that is obtained from a timer of the telephone terminal may be stored in memory, column 1, line 24-35. However, the memory for storing the caller ID information may become full. In that case, when a new incoming call is received, the new piece of information is overwritten over the oldest piece of information. This causes a lost of call reception information, column 1, lines 42 – column 2, line 4. Fujino et al. propose a solution that instead of having plural pieces of reception history information having the same caller ID stored in the memory, the number of times of a call reception is counted for each caller ID and the number of times call reception for each caller ID can then be display on the caller ID device, column 2, lines 40-55. Fujino et al. make no mention of and do not teach, disclose or suggest establishing a call connection based on newly generated call connection information when the call information stored in the history does not meet predetermined conditions or is not present in the call history. Fujino et al. simply teach counting the number of times calls from a particular caller have been received. In comparison, the claims, clearly recite judging whether the call connection history satisfies the predetermined condition.

In view of the above, it is clear that the cited references taken alone or combination do not fairly teach or suggest the claimed invention. Therefore, the withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that the prosecution of this application would be advanced by a personal interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Application No.: 09/883,986

Docket No.: 32011-173213

The commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by the Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

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Respectfully submitted,

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